

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A method for providing a hosted application service, comprising the step of:

5 providing an instruction to be embedded in a customer document wherein said instruction retrieves hosted service information from an application service provider system and seamlessly integrates said information into said customer document at a user location.

10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said customer document does not reside on said application service provider system.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said application service provider system includes a server, said customer document is an HTML Web page, and said user location comprises a user Web browser.

15 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said instruction retrieves hosted application service information by initiating a service resource request from said application service provider server.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein said instruction further directs dynamic information to be passed to said application service provider server during said resource request.

20 6. The method of claim 5, wherein said dynamic information is passed to said application service provider server using a query string.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein said dynamic information is passed to said application service provider using a cookie.
8. The method of claim 5, wherein said hosted application service information is determined in response to said dynamic information.
- 5 9. The method of claim 8, wherein said hosted application service information comprises a link to a document residing on a customer server.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein said link is coded so as to preserve dynamic information.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein said link is coded so as to preserve dynamic information using session variables.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein said link is coded so as to preserve dynamic information using URL munging.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein said instruction is an HTML tag.
14. The method of claim 13, wherein said service resource is a JavaScript source file.
- 15 15. The method of claim 14, wherein said link is an HTML form.
16. The method of claim 15 wherein said hosted application service comprises a search engine.
17. The method of claim 8, wherein said hosted application service information comprises a second instruction that retrieves new hosted service information from an application service provider server and
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integrates said new information into said customer document at said user location.

18. A system for providing a hosted application service comprising:

an instruction to be embedded in a customer document wherein said

5 instruction retrieves hosted service information from an application service provider system and integrates said information into said customer document at a user location.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein said application service provider system includes a server, said customer document is an HTML Web page that
10 does not reside on said application service provider system, and said user location includes a user Web browser.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein said instruction further directs dynamic information to be passed to said application service provider server and said hosted application service information is determined in response to
15 said dynamic information.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein said hosted application service information comprises a link to a document residing on a customer server and said link is coded so as to preserve dynamic information using URL munging.

22. The system of claim 20, wherein said HTML Web page comprises a link to a document residing on a customer server and said link is coded so as to preserve dynamic information using URL munging.

23. A system for providing a hosted application service comprising:
an administrative interface;
an instruction to be embedded in a customer document, provided via said
administrative interface; and
5 a hosted service provided in response to said instruction.
24. The system of claim 23, wherein said instruction retrieves hosted service
information from an application service provider system and integrates
said information into said customer document at a user location.
25. The system of claim 24, wherein said administrative interface comprises
10 customization tools adapted to customize the appearance of said
information within said customer document.
26. The system of claim 25, wherein said administrative interface comprises a
customer enrollment form.
27. The system of claim 26, wherein said hosted application service
15 comprises a hosted site search engine.
28. The system of claim 27, wherein said system further comprises the step of
providing a robot to index a customer Web site.
29. A system for providing a hosted application service comprising:
means for providing, upon request of a user, hosted application service
20 information from a remote location, said information being integrated into a
customer document at a user location such that it appears to the user that the
information and the customer document originated from a customer system.